

**ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION**

Two ribbon cables are partially stripped of their covering to reveal a window of optical fibers. The bare optical fibers are slightly bent and overlapped so that they define an interior channel. A rod is passed through the interior channel to temporarily hold the bare fibers in place. The bare fibers are placed on a v-groove substrate and a cover is pressed on top of the substrate. Adhesives are applied to hold the ribbon cables and bare fibers in place. The bare fibers are cleaved to form a half-pitch optical fiber array.